

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JERUSA 01079 140811Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00
INRE-00 /026 W

-----007326 140812Z /14/43

O R 131659Z APR 78
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 766
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L JERUSALEM 1079

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT CORRECTED)

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, MOPS, PBOR, UNSC, IS, LE, XF
SUBJ: UNIFIL TROOPS --PRESENT AND PROSPECTIVE

1. WITH THE ARRIVAL OF FIRST CONTINGENT OF OVER 200 NEPALESE
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PAGE 02 JERUSA 01079 140811Z

TROOPS IN PAST TWO DAYS, UNIFIL HAS NOW GONE OVER THE 2,000
MARK (ABOUT 2,150). LOOKING AHEAD TO THE NEXT ARRIVALS, UN
SOURCE HAS TOLD US THAT BY APRIL 16 THE REMAINING 450
NEPALESE WILL BE IN THE MISSION AREA. BY APRIL 23, SENEGALESE
BATTALION (600 TROOPS) IS EXPECTED TO START ARRIVING ALTHOUGH
SOURCE HAS NO INFORMATION ON AIRLIFT FOR THESE FORCES.
(UNNY HAD PREVIOUSLY ASKED UNIFIL TO PREPARE PLANS FOR BRINGING

SENEGALESE IN VIA RAYAK. THIS MAY BE OVERTAKEN BY RECENT HOSTILITIES IN BEIRUT WHICH COULD KEEP LAF FROM MOVING TO RAYAK.)

2. OUR SOURCE SAYS THAT UNIFIL IS EXPECTING ABOUT 500 MORE FRENCH SUPPORT TROOPS (CURRENT FRENCH FORCE IS 729) AND 200 MORE NORWEGIAN SUPPORT TROOPS (CURRENT NORWEGIAN FORCE IS 694) OVER NEXT WEEK OR SO. CANADIANS HAVE AGREED TO KEEP THEIR COMMUNICATORS WITH UNIFIL (19). UNIFIL HAS NO INFORMATION ON POSSIBLE NIGERIAN FORCES OR MAY OTHER ADDITIONAL CONTINGENTS. SWEDES (227) AND IRANIANS (197) ROUND OUT REST OF CURRENT UNIFIL FORCE.

3. COMMENT: ADDING UP PRESENT FORCES AND ALL THOSE EXPECTED, UNIFIL NOW FORESEES HAVING TOTAL OF 3,000 COMBAT TROOPS BY END OF MONTH. SIILASVUO DOES NOT COUNT SUPPORT TROOPS WITHIN THE ORIGINAL 4,000 MAN REQUIREMENT. ADDITIONAL MEN NEEDED TO BRING FORCE UP TO 6,000 ARE NOWHERE ON THE HORIZON YET AS FAR AS UNIFIL CAN SEE.

4. NEWS OF 1,000-MAN NIGERIAN CONTINGENT CONTAINED IN LAGOS 4642 JUST RECEIVED WILL COME AS IMPORTANT BOOST TO UNIFIL.
NEWLIN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS, INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING FORCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978JERUSA01079
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780176-1146, D780159-0534
Format: TEL
From: JERUSALEM
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780462/aaaacaeu.tel
Line Count: 84
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c7f639b1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2983877
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNIFIL TROOPS --PRESENT AND PROSPECTIVE
TAGS: MARR, MOPS, PBOR, IS, LE, XF, UNSC, UNIFIL
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c7f639b1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014